

Basement problems at library may be worse than first anticipated

By T.E. JENKINS



TUESDAY November 24, 1998

WEDNESDAY TONIGHT 43°-46° 70°-75°

St. Paul Church plans Thanksgiving service

St. Paul Lutheran Church plans a special worship service Thanksgiving Day at 10 a.m. The community is invited.

"We have done a traditional Thanksgiving service for over 25 years," said pastor Carroll Kohl. The hour of will worship include Thanksgiving hymns, special music, guest vocalists and patriotic songs.

"This is a chance for us to praise God and give thanks for the blessings we have received," Kohl said. "It has become a tradition for many families, especially those with members who are coming home for the holiday."

WHAT'S UP ...

TODAY

Big Spring Choir Boosters, 7 p.m., high school choir room.

WEDNESDAY

Optimist Club, 7 a.m., **Howard College Cactus** Room

Big Spring Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room. Line dancing, 1 p.m., Senior Citizens Center, Industrial Park.

Staff Writer Howard County Commissi oners learned Monday morning that renovations needed to "waterproof"

the basement

of the Howard

County OLSON Library may cost considerably more than first expected.

Indians present

the importance

of Thanksgiving

Indian Nation made a presenta-

tion in the Thanksgiving spirit.

By T.E. JENKINS

have violence.

Aaron.

Midland.

Staff Writer

"When I first brought this matter to the court, we has estimated that the construction needed to waterproof the library's basement would cost in the neighborhood of \$5,000," said Howard County Construction Administrator Phil Furgueron. "Since then, I have walked through the building with local contractor Lee George, and he said it will actually cost between \$15,000 and \$18,000 to complete the project." According to Furgueron, the difference in cost is due to a large amount of carefully

planned demolitions that are for the library, either. necessary to complete the pro-

ject. "There are several areas where they will have to cut the concrete, and then place it back in," said Furgueron. "There is also a large amount of asphalt that has to come out before we can do anything. All of this is very careful work, and is very time consuming."

"Right now, we only have \$5,000 budgeted for the project," said Howard County Auditor Jackie Olson. "We don't know if we will get any more donations

"Also, if the project ends up

being this expensive, we are required by law to bid the work out."

According to Furqueron, the water leaks are being caused by standing water in the Library parking lot.

"There is an area in the parking lot where the water is collecting when it rains," said Furgueron. "The water is then seeping past the asphalt through the cracks, and working its way down into the basement area.

"We have several damaged ceiling tiles in the community room, as well as the children's reading activity area. We have already seen the maximum exposure we are going to see in those rooms, so whatever damage has been done in those rooms has already been done.

"I believe that by eliminating the asphalt in that area of the parking lot, and replacing it with concrete, which is a lot less likely to crack, we will be able to solve the current prob-

See LIBRARY, Page 2

Students learn about native ways

Students at Washington Elementary had the chance to learn more about the Native American way of life Monday morning, as members of the "We are just showing the kids a little bit of what makes up the Indian way of life," said Ronnie Wales, part of the Choctaw Warrior Nation. "Thanksgiving is very important to all Americans because it is proof that two very different nations can come together, and not Wales was joined by fellow Indians and members of the **Comanche Nation Bob Masters**, his wife Brenda, and son "Me and my wife are teachers," said Masters. "Brenda teaches at Sam Houston Elementary in Odessa, and I teach at Alamo Junior High in

School woes **BSISD** hopes attendance rate can replace numbers

By MARSHA STURDIVANT Staff Writer

Enrollment in Big Spring Independent School District stabilized in the past few weeks, recording a 60-70 student decline from enrollment for the 1997-98 school

year. "We've evened out, and although it is more than I care for, it is stable. With an enrollment of 4,400-plus, our enrollment is stable, MURPHY

although I'm not happy with the numbers," said Murray Murphy, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction with BSISD.

Attendance within the district is at the state average, and Murphy said a greater emphasis is being placed on raising attendance, because the Average Daily Attendance or ADA is used to calculate state funding, he said. "We're calculated with the ADA, not with membership. It's not calculated on student enrollment, and we won't know until the end of the year how this will effect us. The funding we received this year was based on last year," Murphy said.

attendance, he said. "Our elementaries have 96

percent-plus attendance, and the high school has good attendance. We're trying to enhance and improve our attendance (at middle and junior high schools) and we're working to get our attendance above the state average," Murphy said.

Middle and junior high school students have more attendance problems than elementary or high school students, and those with habitual attendance problems have become a priority for the truancy prevention program, he said.

High school students are given an incentive to attend school in the way of final test exemptions. Students must meet certain grade and attendance requirements, but once those conditions are met, they are exempted from final exams, he said.

"It takes the ninth graders some time to understand the exemption policy," Murphy said.

THURSDAY

□ Thanksgiving Dinner, noon until 3 p.m., Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St.

FRIDAY

Signal Mountain Quilting Guild, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, call 267-1037 or 267-7281. Bring a lunch. Howard College Thanksgiving Classic Basketball Tournament, Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Jacksonville vs. New Mexico Junior College, 6 p.m. and Howard College vs. Murray (Okla.) State, 8 p.m.

G Spring City Senior **Center citizens** country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Howard College **Thanksgiving Classic Basketball Tournament**, Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Murray (Okla.) State vs. New Mexico Junior College, 6 p.m. and Howard College vs. Jacksonville, 8 p.m. Dance, 8:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W: Third.

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Abby Classified Comics General Horoscope Obituaries Opinion Sports

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To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

'A big part of education is learning new and different cultures. There is something good to offer from all cultures, and a large part of the Indian teachings is about family, giving and sharing."

We try to emphasize to the children the importance of staying off drugs and alcohol," said Wales. "It's very important for them to keep a clear mind, and remain free of the bad effects that drugs have on the mind and spirit. We also try to emphasize the importance of staying in school to the kids, reminding them that they are the future of this country.

"Indian children actually attend two different types of school. First they attend the white man's schools to get a formal education, and then they attend Indian school to learn the way of their ancestors.'



Aaron Masters and his mother Brenda demonstrate the various clothing and dance rituals of the Native American Comanche Indians during Monday morning's presentation at Washington **Elementary School.**

Veteran, said that is important to teach the children that point of view is half the battle in understanding a culture.

"You have to learn to respect everyone's individual ways and ideas," said Wales. "Not everyone will see the same thing through the same eyes. It's all about respect for everyone, from mother earth, to father sky. That is how we survive.

"I am part of one of the oldest tribes in America, the Choctaw Nation. My grandpa was the See INDIANS, Page 2

Wales, who is also a Vietnam only Indian who fought and died at the Alamo. He had come down from Tennessee with Davy Crockett, and died in that battle.

> "We are just trying to keep our culture alive. We are not prejudice against any other group, and we hold many of the same people in high regard. We also hold our veterans and elders in very high regard."

HERALD/photo T.E. Jenkin

Masters said he was no stranger to these types of pre-

The greatest decrease in enrollment is reflected on the elementary campuses, he said.

"We're light in some elementary classes, and some of our elementary classes are way lower. If we're down on enrollment, but our attendance is up, then that sort of balances things out," he said.

This year, the district increased truant officer Rudy Gutierrez's duties to include grades six, seven and eight. Formerly, the attendant officer focused on elementary student

However, no such incentive is in place for middle and junior high school students, because the district considers final tests an important component of the education of those students, he said.

Overall, Murphy said he believes the lower enrollment for Big Spring reflects a statewide trend, with many variable factors contributing to the decrease.

"The economy and home school and private schooling those are the trends in our country. Parents are seeking alternatives to public school.

"I don't make a judgment about that.

"Our role is to provide the best education possible for those students who come to public schools. We want to continue providing quality education for those students," he said.

Sheriff expects more arrests to come as result of drug raid

By T.E. JENKINS

Staff Writer

Howard County Sheriff Bill Jennings said during Monday's **Howard County Commissioners** Court meeting that he is pleased with the current direction of the various county agen-

and

cies participating, it took quite a while to complete, but we are very pleased with the outcome, and expect more arrests to come out of it in the future."

Commissioners also reviewed the Howard County division of the Department of Public Safety (DPS) request for stalker radar systems during the meeting.

"The stalker radar has front and back radar capability," said Jennings during the meeting. "It's supposed to be the most advanced radar system on the market right now, with all of the different bells and whistles."

"If we had the money, it might be a different story," said Howard County Judge Ben Lockhart. "We've been discussing this with the DPS office for some time now, so I suppose we will continue the talks and see what comes of it.'

Commissioners also reviewed bids on the county's office supply contract, which was awarded to Mayfield Paper Supplies. located in San Angelo.

"We have always gone with te lowest bidder on these con-

See COUNTY, Page 2



HERALD photo/Bob Rump

Mel Prather (left) and Tommy Churchwell receive a check from \$3,236 from K-Bob's Steakhouse manager John Rink on behalf of the Friends of the Settles. K-Bob's raised the money during a Friends of the Settles "all you care to eat" benefit late last month. The money has already been put to use, helping pay for the asbestos removal on the first floor and mezzanine level of the Settles.



execute it," said Jennings.

"Everyone kept asking when we

were going to take action and

do something about the drug

trafficking that was taking

place in Big Spring. My

response was always for them

to have patience, and Nov. 13

was the result. There was a lot of secrecy

involved in the operation, and

with all of the different agen-

that day up and

OBITUARIES

Tommy T. Franklin

Funeral service for Tommy T. Franklin, Houston, formerly of Lubbock, will be 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25, 1998, at O'Donnell Cemetery.

Mr. Franklin died Sunday, Nov. 22, in Houston.

He was born on July 19, 1937, in Lamesa.

He is survived by his wife. Gwen Faulkner Franklin of Houston, formerly of Big Spring; three step-sons, Randy Faulkner of Houston, Rickey Faulkner of San Antonio, and Rodney Faulkner of Big Spring; two grandsons and one granddaughter.

The family will be at 207 Washington Blvd. in Big Spring, Tuesday.

The family suggests memorials to the American Cancer Society; c/o Lucy Bonner; P.O. Box 2121; Big Spring; 79721-2121.

Arrangements under the direction of White Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Susan Walker

Susan Walker, 67, passed away early Tuesday, Nov. 24,

1998, in a local hospital, 10 years after the auto accident on Sept. 8, 1988, that trapped her loving spirit inside a silent shell.

be 4 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25, 1998, at

Welch Nalley-Pickle & Rosewood Chapel with Rev. Ben Neel, pastor of Salem Baptist Church, officiating. He will be assisted by Rev. Eddie Tubbs, pastor of First Baptist Church of Big Spring. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Born Susan Maude Schafer, Oct. 26, 1931, on a ranch in **Glasscock** County to rancher **Bismarck and artist Genevieve** Carter Schafer. Susan graduated salutatorian of Garden City High School in 1948. She loved classical music and played the piano

After graduation, she moved to Big Spring and worked at Gound's Pharmacy. She mar-

Becky Walker of San Angelo and Robb Walker of Odessa; two brothers, Marck Schafer of Garden City, and Gene Schafer of Kerrville; a sister, Joyce Fuller of Big Spring; and her loving care-giver, Lydia Jojola. In lieu of flowers, the family suggest donations to the chari-

ty of the giver's preference. Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle &

Welch Funeral Home. Paid obituary

LIBRARY

Continued from Page 1

lem"

"I think we should get the necessary specifications together for the project, and set it out for bids," said commissioner Bill Crooker. "There's really no reason to set a time element on this since it's just normal procedure.'

The court voted and agreed to set the project out to bid.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

tracts," said Howard County Clerk Margaret Ray. "This case was no different, as Mayfield offered the best price out of the four bidders."

According to Howard County Auditor Beverly Yarbar, the county's office supply contract has moved around among the bidders several times in the past.

"L&H Office Supplies, which is out of Big Spring, was our supplier for several years in a row, but they eventually lost out to another company," said Yarbar. "The last two or three times they have bid, however, other companies have beaten their bid price."

Mayfield Paper Supplies, who had the lowest bid, offered their services for the specified bid at \$7,811.42, beating the second place bid by more than \$300.

L&H Office Supply registered second in the bidding, posting a price of \$8,136.66. Next in line was Concho Business Solutions also of Big Spring, which \$8,312.67. The highest bid placed was from Lamesa Printing, at \$9,222.63.

Drought leaves fall leaves in color

LOCAL

AUSTIN (AP) — The summer drought that drained color from lawns and profits from farmers' pocketbooks is making some repayment this fall.

It's been a feast for Texans' eyes as many trees respond to the dry weather's stress with a colorful show of leaves.

"There's always a silver lining behind every cloud somewhere. You've got to look for it sometimes, but it's there," said forester Lanny Dreesen with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, part of the Texas A&M University System. Dreesen - whose office is in

Conroe, near Houston - said the drought prompted the trees to stop conducting photosynthesis, particularly in their bottom leaves

'What they try to do is shut off the activity of the older and lower leaves in order to reduce transpiration," the giving off of moisture, he said. "They do this with the older leaves because they're the ones that are going to go first. They're less efficient, and the tree is trying to cut the water usage.'

The result is a change in color from green to the splashes of orange, yellow and red evident in a number of Texas spots.

'We're rather blessed with some really nice fall color in places this year," Dreesen said. "I think it's a little more brilliant this year than in a lot of vears.

John Dromgoole, owner of the Garden-Ville of Austin nursery, said the color show is "a little payment for that suffering this summer.

The lack of an early October freeze, which would have caused trees to lose leaves earlier, also has contributed to the spectacle, Dromgoole said. But the mild weather has meant there's not as much red from trees such as maples that have color changes that are prompted by cold, he said.

Recent wet and mild weather meant this wasn't a good year for maple color in Lost Maples,

BIG SPRING ROUND THE TOWN

grower who lost equipment and pecans to fast-rising water in Seguin. Other producers endured sim-

ilar damage.

"There was significant loss from the flooding," said Cindy Loggins Wise, executive vice president of the Texas Pecan Growers Association, a Bryanbased industry group.

The worst losses occurred near the Guadalupe River around Seguin and Cuero, Ms. Wise said, though she noted pecan orchards were damaged in the San Antonio and Colorado river basins. Major pecan-producing areas around El Paso and San Saba weren't affected by the floods.

Fortunately for consumers, there should be plenty of pecans for holiday candies, cakes and pies, producers say.

Nuts remaining from the large 1997 harvest in Texas have been in cold storage, and some distributors buy from out of state and Mexico to supplement their supplies.

Retail prices may be slightly higher, Pape said.

A pound of shelled pecan meat in a retail store typically cost customers \$4.50 to \$5 last year. That price likely will range from \$5 to \$6 this year, according to Pape.

Pecans are alternate-bearing trees, meaning they produce large numbers of nuts every other year.

In an average year about 60 million pounds of pecans are harvested in Texas, the secondlargest pecan-producing state behind Georgia. Texas harvested 90 million pounds in a

bumper crop last year. The U.S. Department of Agriculture had forecast 40 million pounds this year in Texas.

BRIEFS

THE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE forest will be hosted by the Heritage Museum this year. Participants; are invited to set up their entries Dec. 1-4.

Trees can be decorated along any holiday theme - creativity is welcome. First prize for the

PICK 3: 1,4,5 Texas Lottery CASH 5:4,25,28,29,32

for the Margaret Shannon academic scholarship to be awarded in December.

The scholarship program was initiated earlier this year. Two \$500 scholarships are awarded annually, one in the fall and another in the spring.

Students need to be enrolled for at least nine semester. hours, maintain a 2.5 grade point average overall and a 3.0 in major courses, and be residents of Shannon's 19-county service area, which includes Howard.

Deadline for entry is Dec. 15. The scholarship winner will be named Dec. 30. For more information or an application, call Shannon Marketing at (915)657-5064.

MOTHER'S DAY OUT PRO-GRAM will be starting Monday, Nov. 2, at Baptist Temple. The program will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Mondays and the cost is \$8 per child.

If there is enough interest in this, there will be one on Wednesdays. Please call the church office at 267-8287 if you are interested.

SPRING TABERNACLE CHURCH, 1209 Wright, has free food for the area needy from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday.

SUPPORT GROUPS

TUESDAY

•Support for MS and Related Diseases, 6:30 p.m. second Tuesday of each month, Canterbury South. Public invited. Call Leslie, 267-1069. Al-Anon, 8 p.m., 615 Settles.

 Seniors' diabetic support group, 2 p.m., Canterbury South. Call 263-1265.

•Compassionate Friends support group for parents who have experienced death of a child, 7:30 p.m. first Tuesday in February, April, June, August, October and December in the Family Life Center Building, First Baptist Church, 705 West Marcy. Enter by southeast door. Call 267-2769.

p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 268-4189 (pager

BIG SPRING HERALD

Tuesday, November 24, 1998

WEDNESDAY •Gamblers Anonymous, 7 p.m., St. Stephen's Catholic Church, room 1, 4601 Neeley, Midland. Call 263-8920.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. 12 and 12 study.

•Narcotic Anonymous, 8 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church.Call 268-4189 (pager no.) Step study.

IF YOU HAVE A SUPPORT GROUP LISTING, PLEASE SUBMIT IT IN WRITING.

MARKETS

Dec. cotton 60.65 cents, up 45 points; Jan. crude 12.40, down 5 points; Cash hogs steady at 18; cash steers steady at 61 cents even; Dec. lean hog futures 28.57, up 57 points; Dec. live cattle futures 62.25, up 92 points. courtesy: Delta Corporation. Other markets were unavailable by press time.

FIRE/EMS

Following is a summary of Spring Big Fire Department/EMS reports: MONDAY

3:22 p.m. -11th and Birdwell, traffic accident, patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center. 6:39 p.m. - 3400 block E. 11th,

medical call, patient transported to SMMC.

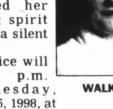
SHERIFF

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Monday. cal weaporteday. Tuesday. Gas weaporteday WRIGHT BERNARD **RAYNOR**, 21, was arrested for unauthorized use of a vehicle.

• RAFAEL GARCIA, 36, was arrested for driving while

Service will

WALKER



ried Ray Walker on Sept. 27, 1950, in Howard County. They farmed and ranched in Howard, Martin and Glasscock Counties. She was a long-time member of Salem Baptist Church, teaching Sunday School classes and working with the church youth for some 35 years. Susan had a servant's heart, providing home-cooked food, aid, friendship and a sympathetic ear to family, friends and strangers.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by: her husband, Ray of the home; a son and daughter-in-law, Ryan and Pam Walker of Big Spring; a daughter, Carla Harrold of Big Spring; two grandchildren,

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH **Funeral Home**



Susan Walker, 67, died Tuesday. Services will be 4:00 PM Wednesday at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow

at Trinity Memorial Park.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL 24th & Johnson 267-8288 J.B. Murphree, 75, died Saturday. Memorial services will be 10:00 AM, Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Big Spring Herald ISSN 0746-6811 USPS 0055-940 ally except Saturda Daily except Saturday. BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: day, \$8.65 monthly; 193.42 yearly (in es 10% disco

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 mon hly Howard & Martin les. \$13.25 . The Herald is a me mber of the d Press, Audit Bureau of

station, Ame ican Nø on and West Texas Pre ng, Texas, 79720-900

POSTMASTER: Send cha ddress to: Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas. 79720.

INDIANS

Continued from Page 1

sentations, as he has been taking part in the education of groups to the Indian way of life since he was a young boy.

"I've been doing these types of shows since I was a young boy," said Masters. "It's been a really good experience, and I have learned a lot myself. You see a you travel around like this, and it's really interesting to see how they see Thanksgiving represented."

According to Masters, the native American Nation holds many groups in high regard, but veterans hold a special place in their hearts.

"A lot of the revitalization of the Indian Nation actually came from the Vietnam War," said Masters. "A lot of the people that fought didn't get much of a warm reception from the general public, but the Indian Nation welcomed back their warriors with open arms. After that is when the real regrowth happened.

"You may not believe this, but the United States Marine Corps has more Native American soldiers per capita than any other race. Each time there is a Powwow, the ceremonies end with a song dedicated especially to the veterans.'

"We look upon Thanksgiving as proof that we don't have to have violence to survive," said Wales. "It's so important that we honor one another, our teachers, as well as our mothers and fathers. That isn't just the Indian way, but the American way.'

TAKE TIME OUT

FOR YOURSELF READ

TWO FOR TUESDAY

SUBWAY

10th & Gregg

Rip Griffin's

Truck/Travel Ctr.

about 60 miles northwest of San Antonio.

'We just had no cool weather in October, which we definitely need, and we had 10 or 12 days of solid, overcast drizzle," said Mary Cantrell, a clerk at the Lost Maples State Natural Area. "The weather doesn't cooperate like it used to.'



SEGUIN (AP) - At Pape's Pecan Co., growers arrive eager to sell their harvest. Workers load big red mesh bags of nuts onto delivery trucks. Shoppers browse through a gift store stocked with sweets.

It's as busy as it usually is before Thanksgiving.

Owner Kenneth Pape and his employees have worked extra hard to ensure a good supply of pecans after the summer's punishing drought and October's destructive flooding.

"We were harvesting my orchard when the flood hit," said Pape, a third-generation

DUNLAPS

Shop Locally

We've Got Your Perfect

Christmas Gift

111 E. Marcy 267-8283 Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Shanksgiving

State National Bank

Closed Thanksgiving Day

First Big Spring Banking Center

Closed Thanksgiving Day

Government Employees

Federal Credit Union

Closed Thanksgiving Day

Fri. 9 am til 2 pm

First Bank of West Texas

Closed Thanksgiving Day

best tree will be a tree of more than 40 Beanie Babies.//Call Nancy at 267-8255 for details.

THE SAMARITAN COUN-SELING CENTER announces its association with new play therapist Ellen Dunn-Sablan. Ms. Dunn-Sablan is the former clinical director for Harmony House in Odessa, and a Licensed Professional **Counselor and Registered Play** Therapist. She specializes in play therapy with children who deal with abuse issues, but also works with adults and families who face a range of challenging needs. Therapy sessions are available here in Big Spring at the First Presbyterian Church. Contact the Counseling Center at 1-800-329-4144 to set up an appointment.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN **CHURCH** is having a special Thanksgiving worship service at 10 a.m. Thursday. The community is invited to attend.

THE TEXAS DEPART-MENT OF Health will be giving flu shots on Wednesday Nov. 25 from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m. The flu shot on Nov. 25 will be given from 8 a.m. to noon only.

SHANNON HEALTH SYS-TEM IS accepting applications

Scenic Mountain

Medical Center

1601 W. 11th Place

263-1211

Following Hours....

Big Spring State Hospital

Federal Credit Union

Closed Thursday & Friday

Big Spring Education

Federal Credit Union

Closed Thursday & Friday

Citizens Federal

Credit Union

Closed Thanksgiving Day

•Cancer support group, first Tuesday of each month, 7-8 p.m., VA Medical Center room 213. Call Beverly Rice, 268-5077. •"Most Excellent Way," an addiction support group, 3610 Dixon, call 264-9900.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. closed meeting.

 Family Education and Support, sponsored by Howard County Mental Health Center, meets the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at 319 Runnels. For more information call Shannon Nabors at 263-0027

•The Big Spring Alliance for the Mentally Ill meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at 409 Runnels (formerly the TU building) For further information call Sondra at 267-7220

•Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas will have Dr. Ronald Meyer, D.Min., LCDC, LMFT, specializing in individual and marriage counseling, Attention Deficit Disorder and chemical dependency, available for clients in Midland. Appointments for counseling services are made by calling 1-800-329-4144.

•Narcotics Anonymous, 6

ALLAN'S

FURNITURE

Big Spring, Texas

American State Bank

Closed Thanksgiving Day

Cosden Employees Federal

Credit Union

Closed Thursday & Friday

Norwest

Closed Thanksgiving Day

Big Spring District T&P

Federal Credit Union

Closed Thursday & Friday

202 Scurry

In Observance Of Thanksgiving These

Financial Institution Will Observe The

intoxicated, 2nd offense JON THOMAS DURHAM. 21, was arrested for posession of marijuana.



The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Monday and 8 a.m. Tuesday: BILLY KENNEDY, 20, was

arrested on local warrants. • RICHARD HUCKABEE, 38, was arrested for no drivers

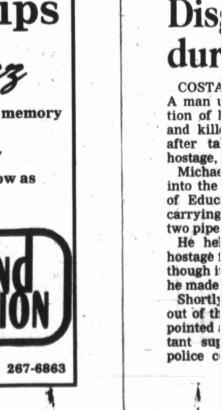
license • **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** in the 700 block of E. 3rd, and the

400 block of E. 4th. BURGLARY OF A BUILD-ING in the 600 block of Lamesa

• THEFT in the 2900 block of W. Hwy 80

• DOG BITE in the 400 block of E. 4th.





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GENERAL NEWS

awmaker gives government failing grades on fixing computer problem

House expert on the Year 2000 computer problem gives the federal government a "D" grade for its efforts to fix the computer glitch that could seriously disrupt basic public services on Jan 1, 2000. "The picture is a gloomy

Tuesday, November 24, 1998

BIG SPRING HERALD

one," said Rep. Stephen Horn, R-Calif. At the current rate nearly one-third of mission-critical systems will not meet the president's March 1999 deadline for being Year 2000-compliant, he said.

But President Clinton's chief authority on the problem, John

ASHINGTON (AP) - A Koskinen of the Year 2000 Council, said Horn's latest assessment understates the progress being made and predicted that almost all federal "mission-critical" computer systems will be ready for the new millennium.

Some departments, such -as the State Department and the Health and Human Services Department, face "significant challenges," but the bigger problem, Koskinen said, is the local governments, small businesses and foreign countries that "are at square one" in addressing the issue.

Horn, chairman of the House subcommittee on government management, information and technology, has been issuing quarterly ratings of how 24 federal agencies are coping with what is known as the "Y2K" problem.

He gave eight agencies animproved grade from August, while marking down only one: The Defense Department fell from "D" to "D-," But he said the overall administration grade was still a "D" because many of the largest agencies were among the worst performers.

He gave failing grades to the of most private-sector areas." departments of Justice, Energy, State, and Health and Human Services. which oversees Medicare.

Koskinen, appointed in February to lead the new Year 2000 Council, cited Horn's figures showing that 61 percent of systems are already fixed and predicted that 85-90 percent will meet the March deadline.

Horn, he said, has "served a valuable function in terms of trying to raise awareness," but he stressed that "by the next quarter report it will be clear the federal government is ahead

Many computers are programmed to recognize only the last two digits of a year, and there are fears of massive malfunctions after Jan. 1, 2000, when machines will assume it is 1900. Many computers have embedded microchips that must be physically replaced.

In a worst-case scenario, Medicare and other federal benefits could be held up, airport traffic control could be disrupted, electric grids could break down and military computers could fail.

to focus on its strategic systems "It goes without saying that there is zero tolerance for error when you are dealing with the defense of our nation," he said.

The Pentagon, which runs almost 40 percent of the mission-critical systems in the government, "has an aggressive program to make sure that our systems can face the Year 2000 challenge," spokeswoman Susan Hansen said.

She said the Pentagon has set up a series of exercises in 1999 "to make sure we are 2000-compliant at the turn of the centu-

Horn said the Pentagon needs

Study shows brain scan could help diagnose ADD WASHINGTON (AP) - A there is no consistent physical ADD, usually is diagnosed in

defining, biological test may finally be possible for attention deficit disorder, a poorly understood condition that has caused millions of American children to be placed on mind-altering drugs

Researchers at Stanford University report today in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences that there is a "signature" in brain scans of children who have attention deficit disorder, or ADD. Just as importantly, the study found that a brain scan also can identify children who do not have the condition.

The announcement comes just days after a National Institute of Health experts panel said that even though ADD is a major public health problem,

diagnosis technique that precisely identifies those with the disorder

Dr. John Gabrieli of Stanford's psychology department, co-author of the study, said he and his colleagues "are onto something that looks like it is a signature in the brain for ADD that is different from non-ADD.'

He said the study is only a first step toward developing a final test for ADD, but he said it 'looks very promising.'

The test requires a functional MRI, a type of magnetic resonance imaging that is available at only a few hospitals. A regular MRI costs up to \$1,500 and a functional MRI could be even more expensive.

Attention deficit disorder, or

school-aged children based on interviews and observed behavior

restless inability to sit still to

read, study or even watch tele-

vision. Often a child cannot

play in group games, and a com-

mon symptom is the inability to

control impulses. Some mild

common in many children,

leading experts to worry that

"Many people are concerned

because the diagnosis remains

very subjective," Gabrieli said.

"It is possible to misdiagnose a

child and miss another condi-

tion, or to over-diagnose a child

who is merely rambunctious."

ADD is diagnosed too often.

forms of these symptoms are

A biological signature of ADD, in contrast, would allow for "a valid and consistent diagnosis," he said. Mind-affecting drugs such as Symptoms of ADD include the

Ritalin are the most common treatment, but some doctors and parents worry about their longterm effects, which have never been studied.

The Stanford study used the functional MRI, to individually scan the brains of 16 boys between the ages of 8 and 13 while they were playing a simple mental game. The MRI detects which part of the brain responds to specific actions or to drugs.

Ten of the boys had been diagnosed with ADD, and six were considered normal.

Hunt for Gacy victims proves to be 'a big case over nothing'

CHICAGO (AP) - Police blockaded the street. Helicopters hovered. Camera crews climbed on a nearby rooftop. Experts scanned the ground with a radar device that looks like a power lawn mower

In the end, police who searched Monday for more victims of serial killer John Wayne Gacy found nothing more than a flattened saucepan, a glass marble, a chunk of concrete and a 2>-foot wire.

"It's a big case over nothing," scoffed Betty Larson, a retiree who lives nearby, as she lugged a bag of groceries past the excavation site.

Even police compared it to the episode when Geraldo Rivera opened a vault that once belonged to Chicago mobster Al Capone on national television and found nothing except an empty bottle. Gacy, a building contractor and amateur clown, was convicted of luring 33 young men and boys to his home for sex and strangling them between 1972 and 1978. Most were buried in a crawl space under the house. Four were dumped in rivers.

He spent 14 years in prison, painting pictures of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs before he was executed in 1994.

PREVIEW TERRIFIC THANKSGIVING SAVINGS STOREWIDE! **PRE-THANKSGIVING**

State Department rejects Iraqi excuse on documents

Clinton administration, in a standoff with Iraq over weapons documents, says "the dog ate my homework" is no excuse for refusing to cooperate with U.N. weapons inspectors.

But Nizar Hamdoon, Iraq's U.N. ambassador, said Monday: "We don't have any more documents that we believe are related to disarmament at this point."

The dispute involves documents on chemical and biological weapons programs that Richard Butler, the chairman of the U.N. weapons inspection commission, has sought since last Friday.

WASHINGTON (AP) - The "and provide documentation

that is necessary." But Albright stopped short of declaring the dispute a crisis. "It's not a matter of a deadline; it's a matter of really coming forward with what is necessary to show that they are cooperating," she said.

In Baghdad, Iraqi Deputy Foreign Minister Riyadh al-Qaisi said Butler was recycling an old request

"All we have, we gave," he told reporters in Baghdad. "All we don't have we stated we didn't have.

State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said Butler was in the position to know whether Secretary of State Madeleine particular documents were Albright said Monday it was available "or the dog ate them

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'He'd better be scared,' remarks defiant McDougal after acquittal

 Susan McDougal declared Ark. herself ready for a renewed battle with Kenneth Starr after she was acquitted of embezzlement conductor Zubin Mehta and his charges in a case surrounded by hints of the Whitewater as bookkeeper and personal affair.

"Everything that's happened to me in recent years has been about Bill Clinton," Ms. McDougal said Monday after the jury acquitted her on all nine counts, including forgery and failure to pay state income taxes.

"They want me to say things against Bill and Hillary Clinton," she said. "People say to me, 'Are you scared of Ken Starr?' He'd better be scared of me because I'm on my way back.'

Ms. McDougal has spent 18 months behind bars for refusing to testify against President Clinton in the Whitewater affair. Starr, the independent prosecutor handling the investigation, has accused Ms. McDougal of contempt and obstruction of justice; she faces

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) a Feb. 16 trial in Little Rock.

McDougal, 44, was Ms. accused of stealing \$50,000 from wife, Nancy, when she worked assistant to Mrs. Mehta from 1989 to 1992. She could have gotten up to four years in prison.

The case took five years to get to trial. By then, Ms. McDougal had become famous for her steadfast refusal to testify against her friend Clinton.

She also served 3> months of a two-year sentence in a Whitewater-related loan fraud case, released because of a painful back condition. Also convicted in that case were her ex-husband James McDougal, who died in prison, and former Arkansas Gov. Jim Guy Tucker.

The California case seemed a Hollywood-style subplot of a Washington scandal, though jurors were warned by the judge not to consider Ms. McDougal's Whitewater involvement.

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Disgruntled adult killed during hostage standoff

tion of his deaf son was shot and killed by a police sniper after taking school officials hostage, authorities said.

Michael P. Generakos walked into the Orange County Board of Education offices Monday carrying a gun and as many as two pipe bombs, police said.

He held two administrators hostage for almost three hours, though it was not clear whether he made any demands.

Shortly after dark, he walked out of the building with a gun pointed at the back of an assistant superintendent, ignoring police commands to drop the

COSTA MESA, Calif. (AP) - weapon. When Generakos A man upset about the educa- moved to one side, a sharpshooter fired a single shot and struck him in the head.

Generakos, 45, recently lost custody of his teen-age son to his estranged wife, and the two fought bitterly over the boy's education. The boy was believed to be going blind.

Generakos appeared at several county board meetings and harangued school officials and staff.

"It just makes me sick that this happened," said Sheila Meyers, a school board trustee. "The boy apparently is in a lot of physical pain, and now he's lost his father.'

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Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

Charles C. Williams John H. Walker Managing Editor Publisher John A. Moseley **Bill McClellan**

Sports Editor

OUR VIEWS

News Editor

Holiday season is time to care about, share with others

s amazing as it may seem, the holiday season is upon us once again ... the stores are packed with shoppers filling carts with goodies for Thursday's Thanksgiving meal while the little ones are paying close attention to those Christmas items it seems were never put away from last year.

Indulge us, if you will, while we ask you to pause in the daily hustle of your routine to think about those less fortunate than yourself.

The holidays are a particularly difficult time to discover the cupboard is bare and there's no prospect of any Thanksgiving dinner, save for perhaps a cold bologna sandwich on stale bread.

And if things are tough at Thanksgiving, there's probably little prospect for a jolly Christmas season.

In hopes of making things a bit better for some members of our community, the Herald will publish a list of ways you can help those less fortunate each day through the holiday season.

The list, which will begin being published Thursday morning, will include all of the Salvation Army Angel Tree and Kettle locations, will also list other organizations working to help out - such as food collections, coat and clothing collections and other ways as well.

To make it easier to find, we will publish it on the front page of the newspaper each day — in the column where the weather forecast is contained on the left side of the page. So many of us have been blessed with so much that it seems crazy to have to make a plea to help those who's hand played out a bit early in the game, but here we go again this year. The wonderful thing about our community is that no matter the circumstance, her people always come through for those who can use a little help now and again.

OPINION 3430

Overhauling Social Security a touchy subject

By WALTER MEARS

AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON - Somebody is going to have to go first with a proposal to overhaul Social Security financing to keep the system in funds after 2032. But President Clinton isn't volunteering, nor are the Republicans, who insist that the White House should be in the lead.

So they'll wait until next year.

Clinton is convening a bipartisan conference on Social Security reform on Dec. 8 and 9, but his advisers say he won't be proposing terms for change and that those sessions shouldn't be expected to yield a solution

The political problem is that whoever puts up specific terms probably will see them torn down by the opposition. Any solution is going to involve changes some people won't like, in a system that will pay benefits to about 44 million Americans this year.

"Now that the election is over." Clinton said when it was, "it is time to put politics aside ... above all ... to save Social Security for the 21st Century."

He'd made saving the system his alliterative slogan all campaign year, and said Democrats could best be trusted to do it.

soars in the new century will involve unpopular steps, perhaps another increase in the eligibility age and restraints on future cost of living increases.

Republicans learned the impact of the latter the hard way in 1986, after voting in the Senate to limit inflationindexed benefit increases. **President Ronald Reagan had** recommended the cost-curbing step, but after the Republican Senate voted to do it, he surrendered to the Democratic House and dropped the proposal. Republicans lost control of the Senate in that year's elections, and their leaders said it was because of the Social

Security issue The age for full retirement benefits already is going up, gradually, from the current 65 to 67 in 2025, under an earlier financing reform law. But the Social Security Advisory Board says only one in five Americans knows it, and polls show more than 70 percent oppose further increases.

The surveys also show broad public opposition to increasing taxes or curbing benefits but majority support for an option Republicans generally favor permitting people to make their own retirement investments with some of the funds

now paid into Social Security. The administration is wary, but Clinton has indicated he might agree to limited steps in that direction.

He might have to, if there is to be anything approaching the bipartisan "true national consensus" he said it will take to produce a solution.

He had said 1998 was the year to shape it, so that changes could be enacted in 1999. "For too long, politicians have called Social Security the third rail of American politics," Clinton had said. "That's Washington language for 'It's above serious debate.' But this year, we must prove them wrong.'

That hasn't happened.

Indeed, Clinton demonstrated the power of the issue when he made it the keynote of his 1998 State of the Union message, saying that every penny of projected budget surpluses should be reserved until there is a solution on Social Security.

"Save Social Security first." he said, in what became a campaign theme. And not only for Democrats. Republicans said the same thing, except that they argued they could do it and cut taxes at the same time.

That debate hasn't moved: their leaders still promise tax cuts and action to preserve Social Security, saying the nation can afford both. But

Clinton hasn't budged on his insistence that surpluses be saved pending Social Security reform.

Tuesday, November 24, 1998

BIG SPRING HERALD

Rep. Bill Archer, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, asked the president for specific proposals on future financing. He said that is the best, and perhaps the only hope that the Republican **Congress and Democratic** administration can enact an overhaul. Senate GOP leaders want his proposal first, too.

But Clinton's chief White House advisor on the issue, Gene Sperling, said the president won't be rushed, that determining his best role is a strategic issue to be settled later.

"Without a specific plan from the president, this very difficult job will become much, much harder," Archer said in a Republican radio address.

He wrote Clinton that for Congress to begin the process would be to invite a political fight "without a legislative safety net.'

Democrats don't want to work without a safety net, either.

Not on this issue.

(Walter R. Mears, vice president and columnist for The Associated Press, has reported on Washington and national politics for more than 30 years.)

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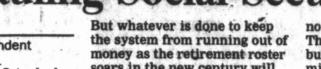
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We know they will again.

OTHER VIEWS

They are out there and growing numbers. Cyber sex predators looking for young people to prey on...

Around the world, child pornography is a massive problem. With the popularity of the Internet, it has exploded. However, careful monitoring of your childs Internet activities and some common sense can thwart predators. Chat rooms are probably the most dangerous area on the Internet. As with other areas of the Internet, you dont know who is there, so never say anything in a chat room that you wouldnt say in public. To put it bluntly, chat rooms especially those used by teen-agers are used by pedophiles to find victims. Adults or even older teens seeking to exploit younger people dont necessarily tell the truth about who they are. Someone indicating that "she" is a "12-year-old-girl"

could in reality be an older man. The basic rules for online safety apply to all areas of the Internet, but they are especially important in chat areas. Keeping your identity especially address, phone number and full name private when online greatly reduces the possibility of being victimized by an online predator. But, lets put this into context. Statistically, children are more far likely to be sexually assaulted by a family member or someone else they already know than someone they might "meet" in an Internet chat room. Yet, the skills we teach child dren to remain safe on the Internet can translate to staying safe in "real life." The rules of conduct, whether focused on cyberspace or real space are basically the same.

THE FACTS, **Clute**, Texas

Being grateful for quality of life we have

s predictable as our own turkey dinner each Thanksgiving when I was growing up was the story my father told about the year his family could buy only a few slices of baloney for the holi-

day.

plump

He recalled the pain of standing in the butcher's shop with barely enough money to pay for lunch meat for his mother and four siblings, while

LINDA those around CHAVEZ him bought

turkeys, yams and cranberries. He described taking the meat home wrapped in butcher paper tied with a string, which he later used in his shoes in place of the laces he couldn't afford.

The story, and dozens like it, always made me feel a bit guilty for never having suffered the grinding poverty my father knew. Yet my own childhood in the 1950s was far from privileged

Until I was a teen-ager, we lived in tiny basement and attic apartments, sometimes sharing a bathroom with several other families. Although we never went hungry, my father was often out of work, especially during the winter months in Denver, when it was too cold to

paint houses. We got by, mostly because my mother worked in restaurants and department stores year-round.

Today, my children's experiences are as far-removed from those of my childhood as mine were from my father's. Like many Americans, my family's history is one of seemingly endless upward mobility, fueled by educational opportunity and an expanding economy. What is amazing is not how unusual our story is, but how common. It is the typical American story: from rags to riches - or at least respectability - in a single generation.

Unlike in virtually every place else in the world, it is possible to grow up poor in the United States and achieve a secure and comfortable life, if not actual wealth. Americans swap places on the economic ladder more than people of all other nations. A study by the Urban Institute a number of years ago, for example, showed that nearly half of those persons whose income was in the lowest 20 percent of all Americans' moved up to a higher quintile within 10 years, while a similar proportion of those in the highest income quintile actually moved down.

But it is not just individual mobility that accounts for the experience of most Americans that they are better off than their parents and grandparents were. In fact, as a nation we are richer today than at any point in our history. We now take for

granted as necessities items that only a few years ago would have been beyond the reach of even the most wealthy.

Virtually all homes, including those of the poor, have telephones, color television sets, microwaves and VCRs. As Robert Rector of the Heritage Foundation noted recently, nearly 40 percent of poor people own their own homes, 62 percent own a car, nearly half of all poor households have airconditioning, nearly a third own microwave ovens.

Compare this with what average Americans owned just a generation or two ago. More poor people today own televisions and refrigerators than middle-income Americans did in 1950. In 1930, fewer than half of all households had any form or refrigeration; less than 1 percent of Americans lack refrigerators now.

In a different way, this is what my father was trying to tell me with his story. The point was not to make me feel sorry for him but to make me grateful that life was so much better for me. Generations of Americans have worked hard so that their children could have better lives than they did, and they have largely succeeded.

Along with remembering the poor during the holiday season, perhaps we should also be thankful that there fewer poor people now than in the past and that the poor are not as poor as they used to be. © Creators Syndicate

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· Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.

We reserve the right to edit letters for style and clarity.

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SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting item or story idea for sports? Call John Moseley, 263-7331, Ext. 233.

> Page 5 Tuesday, Nov. 24, 1998

Injuries become big concern for Cowboys' holiday plans IN BRIEF

Lady Steers freshmen knock off Snyder, 46-27

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Big Spring's Lady Steers freshmen improved their record to 4-1 on the season Monday night with a 46-27 win over Snyder's young Lady Tigers at Steer Gym.

Point guard Tejal Patel paced the Big Spring attack with 16 points and added seven steals and six rebounds for good measure.

Paige King added 11 points from the wing and Dena Cook scored 6 points.

The Lady Steers freshmen will play in Sweetwater at 6 p.m. Monday.

Softball umpires needed for high school schedule

Fastpitch umpires are currently needed to work softball games throughout West Texas, according to officials with the Permian Basin chapter of the Southwest Softball Umpires Association.

Umpires will be calling high school softball games in Alpine, Andrews, Big Spring, Brady, Coahoma, Colorado City, Eldorado, Fort Stockton, Greenwood, Hermleigh, Kermit, Lamesa, Midland, Monahans, Odessa, Pecos, San Angelo, Snyder and Sonora. For more information, call Mack Gipson at 520-5961.

YMCA youth basketball program being revamped

Registration for YMCA youth basketball is currently under way with Program **Director Cindy Kincaid saying** those who took part in last year's program will see wholesale changes.

The program is being expanded to include seventhand eighth-graders.

Youngsters whose families are not YMCA members will have to purchase basic program memberships for \$15 to participate, but Kincaid said the program will continue to scholarship children from low income families.

The YMCA has also scheduled a basketball camp for boys and girls on the first

IRVING (AP) - The Dallas Cowboys the stomach at the end of the catch. Mills right groin; and offensive tackle Erik hope injuries don't prevent them from giving the NFC-leading Minnesota Vikings their best shot on Thanksgiving Day.

Wide receiver Ernie Mills underwent surgery Monday for a cut on his small intestines and will miss at least the rest of the regular season.

"You can't lose a guy like Ernie without it really hurting you. Hew had played really well and really understood the offense," Cowboys coach Chan Gailey said.

The Cowboys also learned Monday they have lost left guard Everett McIver for the year with a knee injury. Rookie nator. Flozell Adams will play in his place on Thursday.

Mills was injured on a three-yard catch for a first down in Sunday's 30-22 victo-

spent the night in a hospital because doctors wanted to make sure his internal bleeding had stopped.

Mills, a former receiver at Pittsburgh and Carolina, had caught 28 passes for 479 yards and four touchdown. He ranked second on the team in receptions. "Ernie was very upset because he des-

perately wanted to play. It just seems like there is no justice for that guy.' Mills suffered a season-ending injury at Carolina last year and also was

injured in 1996, his final year at Pittsburgh, where he was a wide receiver and Gailey was the offensive coordi-

Listed as questionable for Thursday's game are cornerback Deion Sanders, sprained big left toe; running back Emmitt Smith, sprained right ankle; ry over Seattle. Mills took a helmet in running back Chris Warren, strained Charlie Williams. "Not having Deion

Williams, sprained left knee.

Offensive guard Nate Newton, who has an injured left leg, was upgraded on Monday to probable. Other probables included center Clay Shiver, sprained right toe, and tight end David LaFleur, strained right pectoral muscle.

Sanders left Sunday's game in the first half and never returned. "It's clearly a concern with all the

injuries we've had," quarterback Troy Aikman said on Monday. "Somebody else has to step up. We have a short week.'

The Cowboys feel they must have Sanders because of Minnesota's vertical passing game to three standout wide receivers including Randy Moss.

"Deion takes away half the field when he's in there," said defensive back

changes our game plan a little. I'm rooting for Deion to get healthy."

Williams played in Sanders place against the Seahawks.

Defensive back Darren Woodson said the Cowboys must prepare like Sanders won't play.

"I'd like for Deion to be out there but if he isn't we have to get the job done with the players we have in there," Woodson said.

Smith's sprained ankle allowed Warren to log extended time against his former team and he gained 71 yards on 12 carries and scored a touchdown.

"The ankle is feeling a little better," Smith said on Monday. "I'll give it a shot and see what I can do."

The Cowboys (8-3) see the game against the Vikings (10-1) as a chance to show the NFL world they are back after a 6-10 slump last season.



Here are members of the Big Spring YMCA Sidewinders gymnastics team that recently hosted the District 1 championships for Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 competitors. Kneeling in front are Amanda Gray (left) and Amanda Henson. Second row, trem left, are: Maegan Fox, Casaidy Peek and Emily-Jones. Back row: Shelleyn Fox, Sarah Haney, Ashtan Evans, Ashli McDiffitt, and Leslie Jansa.

Sidewinders gymnasts advance

Last-minute TD gives Pats 26-23 win over Miami

FOXBORO, Mass. (AP) - New England quarterback Drew Bledsoe wasn't about to let backup Scott Zolak take his place.

Not even after the Patriots star broke a finger on his throwing hand.

"If there was any way I could do it, I wanted to stay," Bledsoe said. "I didn't know if I was hurting the team by staying ... but I'd be damned if I'm going to let Zolak in in that situation. It's a situation I dream about."

Trailing 23-19 with just under two minutes left against Miami on Monday night, the Patriots were at midfield when Bledsoe fractured his right index finger in two places after hitting a shoulder pad.

"He called a timeout, then came back and said, 'I got to stick it out,' " receiver Shawn Jefferson said.

Bledsoe did far more than that, capping a 15-play, 80-yard drive with a 25-yard touchdown neered the 48-yard drive that pass to Jefferson with 29 sec- ended in Abdul-Jabbar's touchonds left as the Patriots beat the

"It's the same route (as in Buffalo) and he came through," Patriots coach Pete Carroll said. "He was really upset last week."

Bledsoe completed 28-of-54 passes for 423 yards, just 3 yards short of his career-high. He threw two touchdowns passes and two interceptions.

"That's the kind of stuff we've been calling on guys to do and to make big plays for us,' Carroll said. "He had a great game.'

Jefferson had six receptions for a season-high 131 yards. New England won for just the

second time in six games. "Every time we thought we had them, they made fourthdown plays in the clutch,' Miami linebacker Zach Thomas said. "This one's tough."

Adam Vinatieri's fourth field goal, a 24-yarder, gave the Patriots their first lead, 19-17 with 9:01 left. But Marino engi-

three Saturdays in December. Beginning in 1999 the YMCA will being offering a yearround youth sports program including basketball, soccer, tball and softball and roller hockey.

For more information, call the YMCA at 267-8234.

YMCA swim team adding a beginners program

The Big Spring YMCA is currently adding beginning swimmers to its swim team. Practice sessions will be from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

To participate, youngsters 6 years of age and older must be able to swim a length of the pool independently in both the crawl and backstroke.

Regular swim team practice sessions will still be scheduled from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

TAPPS six-man title game scheduled in Ira

IRA — A six-man football doubleheader has been scheduled for Friday in Ira. El Paso Jesus Chapel and Greenville Christian will play

for the TAPPS six-man championship at 2 p.m. **Balmorhea and Samnorwood**

will meet at 6 p.m. in a six man state quarterfinal game.

PLAYOFFS

FRIDAY:

7:30 p.m. - Stanton (11-1) vs. Albany (12-0), Mustang Bowl in Sweetwater.

SATURDAY:

3 p.m. — Borden County (11-1) vs. Groom (12-0) at Floydada.

ON THE AIR

TODAY: COLLEGE BASKETBALL

6 p.m. - Maui Invitational Semifinal No. 1, ESPN, Ch. 30 8 p.m. - Maui Invitational Semifinal No. 2, ESPN, Ch. 30

after hosting District 1 event

HERALD Staff Report

Big Spring's Sidewinders gymnastics team recently played the role as host to the District 1 Championship Gymnastics Meet.

More than 200 gymnasts competing at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 took part in the meet, representing teams from Abilene, Amarillo, Big Spring, El Paso, Lubbock, Midland, Odessa, Pampa and San Angelo.

The meet was a qualifying meet for gymnasts at Level 5 and Level 6 hoping to advance to the North State meets.

Several of the Sidewinders athletes turned in impressive performances, qualifying for advanced competitions.

Maegan Fox took a first-place award on the balance beam with a 9.5 score in the Level 5 10year-olds' division and added a fourth-place showing in the floor exercise with an 8.95. She finished with an overall score of 35.95.

Ashton Evans and Sarah Haney also advanced in the Level 5 11-year-olds' division – Evans tying for first on the uneven parallel bars with a 9.1 and finishing sixth overall with a 32.55 score, while Haney was fourth on the uneven bars with an 8.5 and finished in eighth place with a 32.05 total

In the Level 5 12-and-older division, Amanda Grav finished second on the balance beam with an 8.5 score and was sixth overall with a 31.85 score that qualified her for competition at the North State meet in Tyler.

Cassidy Peek finished tied for first on the bal ance beam with an 8.6 score in the Level 6 8 year-olds' division and added a third-place finish on the uneven bars with an 8.6. She finished with a total score of 33.85, good enough for sixth place overall and a trip to the North State meet in Dallas.

Leslie Jansa took part in the Level 6 12-yearolds' division and finished 14th overall, qualifying for the Dallas meet.

In Level 4 competition, Sidewinders athletes Shelleyn Fox, Amanda Henson, Emily Jones and Ashli McDiffitt turned in strong performances.

Tennessee-UCLA still 1-2 in BCS standings

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kansas State is still chasing UCLA for the second spot in the Fiesta Bowl. This week, though, the Wildcats lost ground in the Bowl Championship Series standings.

Tennessee remained in first place in Monday's BCS standings, while the Bruins increased their lead over the Wildcats in the rankings that will determine who plays in the Fiesta Bowl on Jan. 4 with the

national title on the line.

This weekend, the Wildcats (11-0) can get some strength-ofschedule help if Syracuse (7-3) beats Miami (7-2) – UCLA's opponent on Dec. 5 – and Texas A&M (10-1) beats Texas (7-3). K-State plays Texas A&M on Dec.

5 in the Big 12 title game. It appears the Volunteers (10-0) can clinch a berth in the Fiesta Bowl by winning their final two games – against

Vanderbilt (2-8) on Saturday

and either Arkansas (8-2) or

Mississippi State (7-3) in the SEC title game on Dec. 5.

The BCS standings are calculated by using The Associated Press' media poll and the coaches' poll, three computer rankings, strength-of-schedule and number of losses.

With Tennessee No. 1 in the AP poll, K-State No. 1 in the coaches' poll and the Bruins No. 3 in both polls, it's clear the Wildcats have been hurt by a weak schedule, ranked 62nd this week

Dolphins 26-23.

"It's a situation I've always loved," said Bledsoe, who converted two fourth-and-10s during the winning drive.

It was a big setback for Miami (7-4), which lost a chance to retain sole possession of the AFC East lead. The Dolphins dropped into a tie with Buffalo and the New York Jets, one game ahead of New England (6-

"Every time we have an opportunity to separate ourselves from the rest of the division, we just haven't been able to do it," Miami quarterback Dan Marino said.

Marino had led the Dolphins on a 48-yard drive that culminated with Karim Abdul-Jabbar's 4-yard touchdown with 3:22 left that gave Miami its 23-19 lead. Marino finished 24-for-38 for 289 with two touchdown passes and one interception.

"I thought we had it won," Miami coach Jimmy Johnson said. "But, you know, you don't have it won until it's over with.

Instead, Bledsoe and Jefferson stepped up.

Jefferson. who dropped Bledsoe's pass on the Patriots' last offensive play in a 13-10 loss at Buffalo a week ago, stepped into the huddle and asked, "Can I have another chance?'

He got two, and made the most of them – a 12-yard reception on a fourth-and-7 from the Miami 37, then an over-theshoulder catch in the end zone.

down.

The Patriots began the winning march at their own 20 and Bledsoe had five completions on third and fourth downs during the drive.

"We blew some coverages," Johnson said.

Miami got the ball back at its own 4 with 26 seconds left, and Marino's 46-yard completion to Ed Perry got the ball to midfield. But the game ended on the next play, a short completion to Gadsden.

Bledsoe's 8-yard scoring pass to Ben Coates tied it at 7 after one quarter. Gadsden's second touchdown, an 11-yarder following a 35-yarder in the first quarter, made it 14-7.

"We won one game, and it was a dramatic effort," Carroll said. "We're starting to get healthy here. We've got some guys coming back. Now we've got to turn our attention to Buffalo.

Notes: The Patriots had a season-high 455 yards, the most allowed by the Dolphins all year. ... Miami dropped to 6-1 when it leads at halftime.... The Dolphins, coming off a seasonhigh 184 yards rushing a week earlier, were held to 33. New England managed only 41. ... The Patriots have been scoreless in their first possession in all 11 games. ... Three of Miami's last five opponents failed to score a touchdown. ... For the fourth straight regularseason game between the teams, the difference was three points or less.

Big 12 coaches hate seeing one of their own fired at O KANSAS CITY. Mo. (AP) - John patience and don't understand they're in can tell you is it's very, very difficult to coaches put into their jobs," said Texas

Blake's dismissal as Oklahoma's head coach saddened but did not surprise his **Big 12 colleagues**.

They know one day it could happen to them.

"I've been through it. It's not fun," said Missouri coach Larry Smith, who was fired from Southern Cal.

Blake was 12-22 in his three seasons, but won three of his last four games. including a 20-17 victory in the regularseason finale over Texas Tech.

"I think he was just now starting to see some daylight," Smith said.

"He had the players behind him, and that's the biggest factor of all. But there are some programs who have little

the '90s and not the '60s and '70s. College football has changed. You're not always going to return to the glory days instantaneously. That's what the administrations sometimes want.

Oklahoma State coach Bob Simmons deplored the way the vote was televised with the regents announcing each vote. The decision actually had been made earlier in closed session, and Blake knew his fate before the audience.

"I've never seen it done this way, as far as being on TV and taking a vote. I would not want to go out on TV. I really walked away from it," Simmons said. "People handle it different ways. I don't know what options they gave them. All I

be put in that situation.

Whoever replaces Blake, said Simmons, "is going to have to work at

"That's true any place you look at it," he added. "Things have changed across this country with scholarship numbers, people you can't take. ... Just to say a program can dome back immediately, maybe 20 or 30 years ago, yeah, when you had unlimited numbers (of scholarships). But things have changed. They can still recruit talent. But that doesn't mean it's going to happen instanta neously over night.

"You're always sad for the coach because you know how much effort

A&M coach R.C. Slocum. "But all of us when we got into this business realized that the bottom line was ... you can end up losing your job. I know a lot of real good coaches who ended up being dismissed from their jobs. I hate to see a man lose his job."

Texas Tech's Spike Dykes said the firing reminded him of what "an interesting business, to say the least," coaching

"There's no standards," he said. "Every situation is different. I think most coaches have grown to live with that and so that's just part of the process you accept in this business and go on down the road.





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FOR RENT/SELL: 3 bdr. 1/2 bath, C/H/A, fireplace, new paint.

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, NOV. 25:

You will devote yourself to more precise expression. You could find yourself suddenly in love or prone to crushes. Emotional excitement keeps you looking good and your energy high. Others will express interest in what you have to share. Popularity soars. Options abound in daily matters and major life choices. Creativity blossoms after February 1999; direct this energy into key areas. If you are single, romance crashes through your door in 1999. You could enter an important relationship. If attached, 1999 holds greater romance. You will both contribute more to mutually pleasurable pursuits. AQUAR-IUS is a great talker.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic: 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You recharge in your sleep and wake up with usable ideas. Start keeping a dream diary. Charge into work ready to exchange concepts, advance a project and get the day going. Schedule meetings, and talk to co-workers. Others care about your opinions. Tonight: A social night.****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Maintain a high profile. A partner whispers good news in your ear. Work with this person; he supports you professionally and financially. Brainstorm, to come up with new plans. You will succeed with others if you keep conversations one-to-one. Tonight:

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Read between the lines, and understand what is going on with others. Listen carefully; there is more here than you think. Seek experts. Others take your questions as an expression of interest. Seek answers, but don't get caught up in small details. Tonight: Happy holiday wishes.**** CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Sound ideas come from experience. Co-workers are full of suggestions; why not listen? There are certainly grains of truth here. Don't lose your financial perspective when running Thanksgiving errands. Your fussing over tomorrow makes others feel good. Tonight: Get ready for the turkey.****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

putting as much work on the back burner as possible. Tonight: Head out and about.*****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Pace yourself; you have a lot to do. Work is demanding. Others seem to be gone (mentally at least), and you have your share of holiday errands. Listen to feedback from family members; they want to pitch in and help. Others share in the fun. Tonight: Prepare things in advance.****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Your sense of fun peaks with the hurried pace as you run around. Stop what you are doing, and visit loved ones and friends. They want to share holiday cheer. A child wants you to focus on him. If single, romance could be blooming from a flirtation. Tonight: Be a love.*****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Make family the highest priority. You go overboard with spending. Someone appreciates your attention, but you don't have to spend as much to impress this person. Your presence truly is enough; don't underestimate it. A talk about feelings opens up both of you. Tonight: Home.****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec.

Unexpected developments keep you busy. Not that you cannot make adjustments, but they certainly keep life popping. Ask for help when you need it. Trust yourself. Screen calls, or you might not get anything done. Others turn to you for help. Tonight: Shoot the breeze.****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Your mind races while you try to deal with financial matters. When you least expect it, you are called in to handle an emergency. Work and home life are demanding. Ultimately you do a juggling act. Establish limits on how much you can accomplish. Tonight: Spend money.***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You are personality-plus. Friends seek you out, which pleases you. Make time to get together with others, exchange holiday cheer and catch up on news. You hear an interesting tidbit of information. Think about it; there are many implications. Tonight: Be with friends.*****



marriage. He argues that as long as we spend weekdays together he should be able to spend the dozen-or-so birthdays and holidays with them. I think I should be included in family events or at least considered. Am I wrong? -- HAD ENOUGH **IN MINNESOTA DEAR HAD ENOUGH: I have** to wonder why you want to be included at birthday or holiday celebrations with people who

have made it clear they want to exclude you. Your friend is trying to keep you happy by spending weekdays with you, but -- face it -- he has too many other females in his life to concentrate on you alone. You will always be the caboose at the end of the train. Frankly, I think you deserve better.

DEAR ABBY: Would you please publish again your letter on tickling? I have just returned from visiting my daughter and her husband, and he tickles his two little girls too often. He says they must like it, because they laugh. It is very distressing to me. -- WORRIED GRANDMOTHER IN KNOXVILLE, TENN

DEAR WORRIED GRAND-MOTHER: You are right to be concerned about your son-inlaw's behavior. Pediatric specialists say that excessive tickling stimulates children inappropriately and should be discouraged. Remind him that in ancient times, tickling was used as a method of torture.

LOOK TO THE BIG SPRING HERALD FOR ALL OF YOUR LOCAL NEWS. SPORTS, AND INFORMATION



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Singer Lee Michaels is 53."